



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Suman Preet Singh Khanuja, et al.

Serial No.: 09/487,405

Group No.: 1634

Filed: January 18, 2000

Examiner.: A. K. Chakrabarti

For: NOVEL SCREENING METHOD FOR SELECTION OF INSECT
TOLERANT PLANTS

Attorney Docket No.: U 012567-2

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICIAL ACTION OF NOVEMBER 18, 2002

Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested in
view of the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 6, 12 and 13.

Claim 6 (Amended). An *in vitro* screening method for identifying insect
tolerant genotypes or clones, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) growing plantlets in an *in vitro* system;
- b) [a] detecting] screening the plantlets for molecular variation of
somaclones using RAPD analysis *in vitro*;
- c) [b)] selecting the somaclones having molecular variation;
- d) [c)] exposing the somaclones of step [b)] c) to insect larvae or
nymphs; and
- e) [d)] identifying the surviving somaclones.

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